

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

31. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
one or more processors; and
memory storing program instructions;
wherein the program instructions are executable by the one or more processors to:
- store a replica of a data object;
 - store history information indicative of previous accesses to the replica of the data object;
 - receive a write request specifying particular data to write to the replica of the data object;
 - in response to the write request, select to either: 1) write the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object in order to update the data object, or to 2) mark the replica of the data object as stale;
 - wherein the selection of either writing the particular data to the replica of the data object or marking the replica of the data object as stale is made depending upon the history information.
- ~~select one or more operations to perform on the replica of the data object in response to the write request, wherein the one or more operations are selected depending upon the history information, wherein the one or more operations are selected from a group of operations including:~~
- ~~writing the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object; and~~
 - ~~marking the replica of the data object as stale.~~

32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable to:

analyze the history information to determine a number of accesses to the replica of the data object received within a first time period;

wherein ~~selecting the one or more operations comprises selecting~~ the program instructions are executable by the one or more processors to select to write the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object in response to determining that the number of accesses received within the first time period is greater than or equal to a threshold value.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable to:

analyze the history information to determine a number of accesses to the replica of the data object received within a first time period;

wherein ~~selecting the one or more operations comprises selecting~~ the program instructions are executable by the one or more processors to select to mark the replica of the data object as stale in response to determining that the number of accesses received within the first time period is less than a threshold value.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31,
wherein the replica of the data object includes a plurality of portions of data;
wherein the write request comprises a write request to write the particular data to a first portion of the plurality of portions of data;
wherein said marking the replica of the data object as stale comprises marking the first portion of the plurality of portions of data as stale without marking other portions of the plurality of portions of data as stale.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the program instructions are further executable to:

analyze the history information to determine a number of accesses to the first portion of the plurality of portions of data received within a first time period;

wherein said selecting ~~the one or more operations~~ comprises:

selecting to write the particular data specified by the write request to the first portion of the plurality of portions of data if the number of accesses received within the first time period is greater than or equal to a threshold value;

selecting to mark the first portion of the plurality of portions of data as stale if the number of accesses received within the first time period is less than the threshold value, wherein the first portion is marked as stale without marking other portions of the plurality of portions of data as stale.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31,
wherein the replica of the data object comprises a replica of a file.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program instructions executable to:

store a replica of a data object;

store history information indicative of previous accesses to the replica of the data object;

receive a write request specifying particular data to write to the replica of the data object;

in response to the write request, select to either: 1) write the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object in order to update the data object, or to 2) mark the replica of the data object as stale;

wherein the selection of either writing the particular data to the replica of the data object or marking the replica of the data object as stale is made depending upon the history information.

~~select one or more operations to perform on the replica of the data object in response to the write request, wherein the one or more operations are selected depending upon the history information, wherein the one or more operations are selected from a group of operations including:~~

~~writing the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object; and~~

~~marking the replica of the data object as stale.~~

38. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 37,
wherein the program instructions are further executable to:

analyze the history information to determine a number of accesses to the replica of the data object received within a first time period;

wherein ~~selecting the one or more operations comprises selecting the program instructions are executable to select~~ to write the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object in response to determining that the number of accesses received within the first time period is greater than or equal to a threshold value.

39. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 37, wherein the program instructions are further executable to:

analyze the history information to determine a number of accesses to the replica of the data object received within a first time period;

wherein ~~selecting the one or more operations comprises selecting the program instructions are executable to select~~ to mark the replica of the data object as stale in response to determining that the number of accesses received within the first time period is less than a threshold value.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 37, wherein the replica of the data object includes a plurality of portions of data;
wherein the write request comprises a write request to write the particular data to a first portion of the plurality of portions of data;

wherein said marking the replica of the data object as stale comprises marking the first portion of the plurality of portions of data as stale without marking other portions of the plurality of portions of data as stale.

41. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40, wherein the program instructions are further executable to:

analyze the history information to determine a number of accesses to the first portion of the plurality of portions of data received within a first time period;

wherein said ~~selecting the one or more operations~~ comprises:
selecting to write the particular data specified by the write request to the first portion of the plurality of portions of data if the number of accesses received within the first time period is greater than or equal to a threshold value;

selecting to mark the first portion of the plurality of portions of data as stale if the number of accesses received within the first time period is less than the threshold value, wherein the first portion is marked as stale without marking other portions of the plurality of portions of data as stale.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 37, wherein the replica of the data object comprises a replica of a file.

43. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
storing a replica of a data object;
storing history information indicative of previous accesses to the replica of the data object;
receiving a write request specifying particular data to write to the replica of the data object;

in response to the write request, selecting to either: 1) write the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object in order to update the data object, or to 2) mark the replica of the data object as stale;

wherein the selection of either writing the particular data to the replica of the data object or marking the replica of the data object as stale is made depending upon the history information.

~~selecting one or more operations to perform on the replica of the data object in response to the write request, wherein the one or more operations are selected depending upon the history information, wherein the one or more operations are selected from a group of operations including:~~

~~writing the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object; and~~

~~marking the replica of the data object as stale.~~

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising:
analyzing the history information to determine a number of accesses to the replica of the data object received within a first time period;

wherein said selecting ~~the one or more operations~~ comprises selecting to write the particular data specified by the write request to the replica of the data object in response to determining that the number of accesses received within the first time period is greater than or equal to a threshold value.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising:
analyzing the history information to determine a number of accesses to the replica of the data object received within a first time period;

wherein said selecting ~~the one or more operations~~ comprises selecting to mark the replica of the data object as stale in response to determining that the number of accesses received within the first time period is less than a threshold value.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43,
wherein the replica of the data object includes a plurality of portions of data;
wherein the write request comprises a write request to write the particular data to a first portion of the plurality of portions of data;
wherein said marking the replica of the data object as stale comprises marking the first portion of the plurality of portions of data as stale without marking other portions of the plurality of portions of data as stale.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, further comprising:
analyzing the history information to determine a number of accesses to the first portion of the plurality of portions of data received within a first time period;

wherein said selecting ~~the one or more operations~~ comprises:
selecting to write the particular data specified by the write request to the first portion of the plurality of portions of data if the number of accesses received within the first time period is greater than or equal to a threshold value;

selecting to mark the first portion of the plurality of portions of data as stale if the number of accesses received within the first time period is less than the threshold value, wherein the first portion is marked as stale without marking other portions of the plurality of portions of data as stale.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43,
wherein the replica of the data object comprises a replica of a file.